IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Yuji AKISHIBA Art Unit: Application No.: filed concurrently Examiner:

Filing Date: March 19, 2004

Title : DISPLACEMENT SENSOR AND METHOD FOR USING THE SAME

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to his duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56(a), applicant requests that the references cited on attached form PTO-1449 (a copy of which is enclosed) be considered by the Examiner in connection with the search of the prior art required by 37 CFR 1.104.

Please note Japanese Patent No. 3300803 is discussed on page 3 of the specification. Please also note that the enclosed Japanese Patent Publication No. 7-113617 is the earlier laid-open publication of this Japanese Patent.

Please also note that the English language translations of these Japanese references are also enclosed. Please note that these English translations are machine translations provided by the Japan Patent Office and the Japan Patent Office states that the translation may not precisely reflect the original Japanese text. The English language abstracts of these Japanese references are also enclosed.

This Statement is being filed under 37 CFR 1.97(b) prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Information Disclosure Statement Application No.: filed concurrently Page 2

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached at the telephone number listed below. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 19, 2004

Randolph A. Smith Reg. No. 32,548

SMITH PATENT OFFICE

1901 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Suite 200 Washington, DC 20006-3433

Telephone: 202/530-5900 Facsimile: 202/530-5902

Akishiba031904

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Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	0073/016001		

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^{*}Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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